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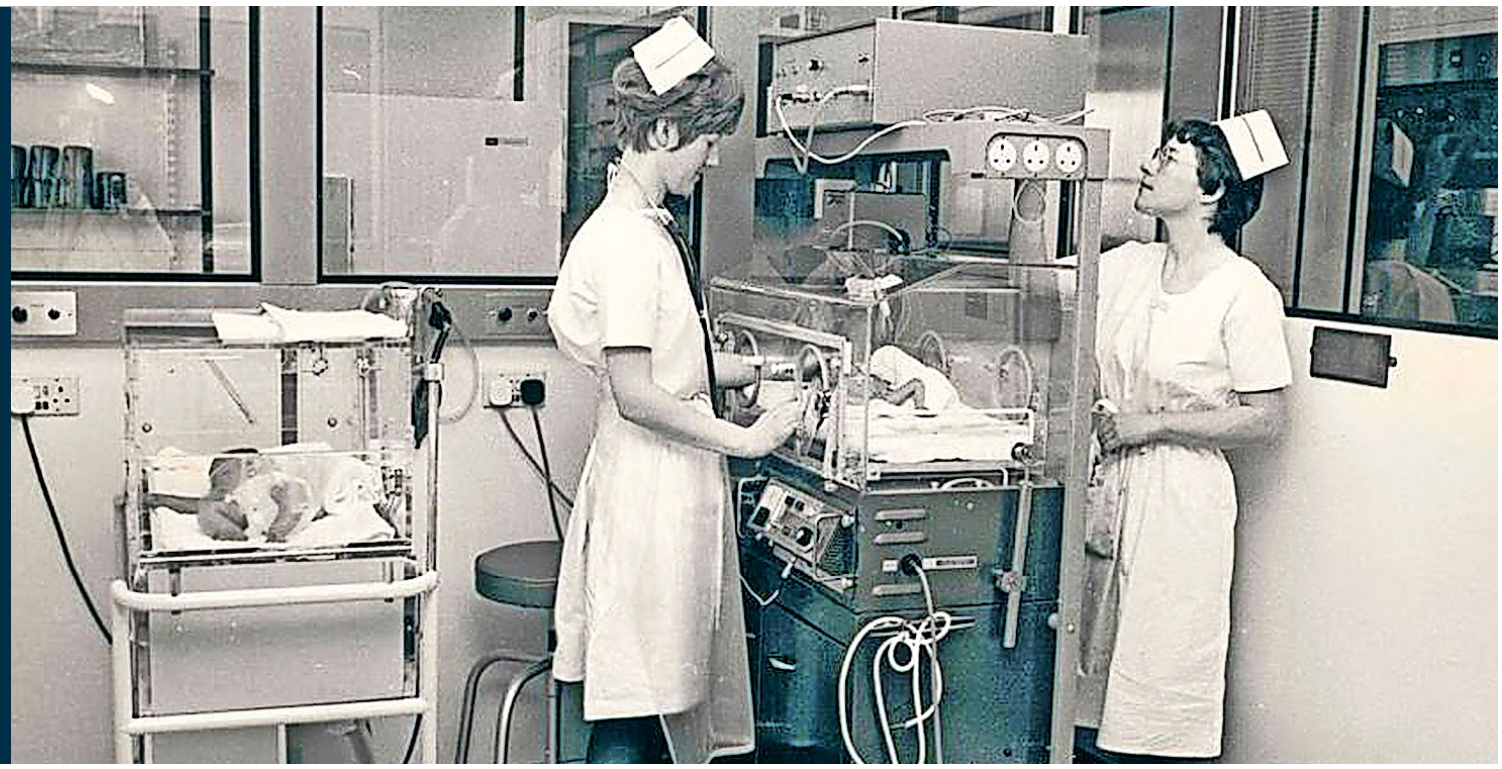
Resilient nurses are proud of their record – 1979



AN expectant mother enters Cambridge's Mill Road maternity hospital in one of two ways: through an archway of plastic urine bottles or under a boiler-house chimney stack.

In the ante-natal clinic, she will jostle for space with dozens of other mothers and give her personal details within earshot of whoever happens to be next to her.

She may have to squeeze past other patients in the narrow corridor to take her urine sample to the little window. The corridors are bad enough for people of normal size to pass each other but pregnancy makes it nearly impossible.

Should the birth prove difficult, she may have to go to the theatre – a wooden ex-army hut built for those wounded in Dunkirk during the war.

The nurses find it a tough place to work, but they're proud of their record – they lose fewer babies than anywhere else in the country.

Largest agricultural camp in country closes - 1953

THE Friday Bridge volunteer agricultural camp, by far the largest and most successful in the country, is to close down after one more season of use.

This year, over 4,000 volunteers were accommodated over the five months' season and the labour allocated to 110 farmers and growers.

When one considers that there are 1,800 commercial holdings in the Wisbech district and 1,200 in the March/Chatteris district, it stands out a mile that the percentage of labour users is very small indeed.

The whole future of the camp has been considered but treasury approval has not been obtained for a limited number of volunteer agricultural camps in 1954 and Friday Bridge would be one.

The closing of the Friday Bridge would also affect the continuation of the nine tented fruit growers' with equipment as there will be nowhere to store the equipment during the winter months.

The government can no longer support the organisation and continuation of the camps. Camp labour has been available since 1943 but the time has arrived when farmers and growers should shoulder their own responsibilities.

The camp is built on requisitioned land which must be handed back to rightful owners.

Moving of Assize Courts - 1954

CAMBRIDGE Assize Courts should be moved to the city library site at the Guildhall, councillors suggested.

There might be some overcrowding on the first day of the Assize when all the prisoners, witnesses and jurymen in all cases had to be present or if there was a case that attracted particular public interest. But there would be a substantial saving in capital expenditure.

For some time they had wished to provide new premises for the library as the central lending library and reading rooms were no longer adequate; before the war there had been proposals to move it to the old Post Office building in Petty Cury.

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